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CHAPTER 23 RED STRING



**WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING!?**

**WHO
ARE
YOU!?**

**YOU
ARE
NOT
NINA!!**







OUR
DAUGHTER...



YOU'RE
AGITATING
ME...

HOW
CAN YOU
NOT SEE
IT?



WHAT ON
EARTH...
HAS GOTTEN
INTO YOU?









BE-
LIEVE
THAT
I AM
TAN-
ZAWA
NINA.

THIS IS
YOUR
ONLY
CHOICE.

AREN'T
IT?

SEE,

I AM
YOUR
ONLY
DAUGH-
TER, NINA.

TAN-
ZAWA
TSU-
GUW



PLEASE
SAY YES...

OTHER-
WISE...

MAMA
PLEASE...

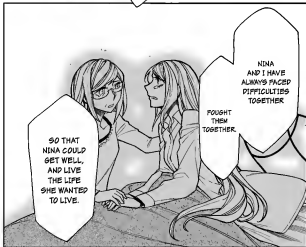


AS A CHILD,
I WAS QUIET
AND HAD A
WEAK BODY...
TO TOP IT ALL
OFF, I HAD THE
SLEEPING
BEAUTY
SYNDROME....

I BELIEVE
WE ARE
TIED TO
EACH
OTHER BY
A BOND
STRONGER
THAN ANY
ORDINARY
MOTHER AND
DAUGHTER.

MAMA
ALSO
THINKS
THE
SAME,
RIGHT?

EVEN SO,
MAMA ALWAYS
STAYED BY MY
SIDE TAKING
CARE OF ME.






I CANNOT
PROVE IT,
BUT I AM
CONFI-
DENT.
BECAUSE
I AM HER
MOTHER.



YOU
ARE
DEFI-
NITELY
NOT
MY
NINA.



THAT
IS NOT
DISSIMILAR
TO A
POWERFUL
CURSE
THAT
BINDS
EVEN
YOUR
FATE

INDEED

...
EVEN I
KNOW...
THE
BOND
BETWEEN
MOTHER
AND
DAUGHTER



I WISH
I DID
NOT HAVE
TO CAUSE
YOU
MISERY.

IF IT WERE
POSSIBLE,

WHY...

...
MAMA
...

IT'S
REGRET-
TABLE...



LIKE MAMA
SAYS...
WE HAVE
FOUGHT
AGAINST
HARDSHIPS
TOGETHER.

EVEN
THOUGH
...

EVEN THOUGH
I'VE FINALLY
RECOVERED
AND THOUGHT
THAT I COULD
REPAY YOU
FOR ALL THAT
YOU'VE DONE
FOR ME...!!

HOW
COULD YOU BE
POSSESSED
BY SUCH A
DELUSION!?

FOR YOU TO
THINK THAT
I'M SOMEONE
OTHER THAN
YOUR
DAUGHTER.

WHA

YOU
JUST
WANT TO
FEEL
NEEDED
AS A
MOTHER,
SO YOU'RE
REJECT-
ING ME
WHO IS
NOW
STANDING
ON MY
OWN!!

COULD
IT BE
THAT...
YOU
WANT TO
ALWAYS
THINK OF
ME AS A
HELP-
LESS
CHILD.

RIGHT...
CERTAINLY
I WAS
A VERY
TROUBLE-
SOME KID
IN THE
PAST...



AND WHILE
I WAS
PLAYING
BY A
RIVER, I
SLIPPED
BECAUSE
OF THE
RAPIDS.

I REMEM-
BER WHEN
I WAS IN
GRADE
SCHOOL
WE WENT
ON A TRIP.

I CRIED
A LOT,
AND WAS
MISCHIE-
VOUS AS
WELL.

NOT
ONLY DID
I HAVE A
WEAK
BODY,



I HIT A
ROCK AND
GOT A
BRUISE
THAT
WOULDN'T
GO AWAY.



DO YOU
NOT RE-
MEMBER
EVEN
THIS,
MAMA...?



LET ME
SEE IT
CLOSER

STOP
IT AL-
READY!

THERE IS
NO WAY THAT
THAT BRUISE
IS REAL!

I REMEM-
BER...
BUT THERE...

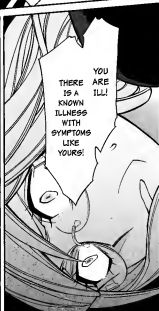


I DIDN'T
WANT TO
BELIEVE IT
EITHER...
BUT I HEARD
FROM NINA
THAT THERE
IS SUCH AN
ILLNESS

SO I WENT
TO CONSULT
THE DOCTOR
WHO WAS IN
CHARGE OF NINA
WHEN SHE STILL
HAD SLEEPING
BEAUTY
SYNDROME
EPISODES...



WHAT
DID YOU
SAY?



YOU
ARE
ILL!
THERE
IS A
KNOWN
ILLNESS
WITH
SYMPTOMS
LIKE
YOURS!



KNOWN AS
'CAPGRAS
DELUSION'.

CERTAINLY
THERE IS THIS
SYNDROME OF
WHICH A PATIENT
DELUSES ONESELF
THINKING THAT A
PERSON CLOSE TO
THEM IS REPLACED
BY AN IDENTI-
CAL-LOOKING
IMPOSTER,

WELL...



IT'S STILL
JUST A
POSSIBILITY

NO,
WELL...

HOWEVER,
YOU SAID
YOUR
WIFE..?



WOULD YOU
CONSIDER
GOING FOR A
CONSULTATION
WITH YOUR
WIFE?

IF YOU'D
LIKE, I CAN
INTRODUCE
YOU TO THE
DOCTOR WHO
HAS TREATED
THESE
PATIENTS.

IT IS RARE,
BUT THERE
SEEM TO BE
CASES IN THIS
COUNTRY TOO.

THE
MORE
YOU
STRUG-
GLE
THE
TIGHT-
ER
THE
GRIP...

YOU
JUST
POINT-
ED A
KNIFE
AT
YOUR
OWN
DAUGH-
TER!!

PER-
FECTLY
SAME,
YOU
DAD!

H-HO,
PLEASE
BELIEVE
ME,
HONEY!

I'M
PER-
FECTLY
SAME!

...A
CON-
SULTA-
TION
...?



CORNER
THE MOTHER
UNTIL SHE
SPILLS
OUT HER
SUSPICIONS.



HOW
COULD
THIS



BUT BEFORE
THAT, I HAVE
TO SUGGEST
TO HIM THAT
'MOTHER
COULD POSSI-
BLY HAVE
CAPSRAS
DELUSION'.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

SHOW THE
FATHER 'THE
MOTHER WHO
CALLED HER
DAUGHTER AN
IMPOSTER',
AND 'THE
DAUGHTER
WHO COULDN'T
BE ANYONE
ELSE' NO
MATTER HOW
HE SEES IT.



THIS

IS A
POWER-
FUL
CURSE
THAT
BINDS
EVEN
YOUR
FATE

...

THIS
IS THE
SCENARIO
THAT CAN
ONLY BE
REALISED
WITH THE
TALENT YOU
INHERITED
FROM YOUR
MOTHER.

MORE-
OVER,

ONE CAN
COMPLETELY
TURN INTO
ANOTHER
PERSON.

GOOD
THING
THERE'S
NINA'S
DIARY.
JUST WITH
THREE,
FOUR
LINES OF
INFORMA-
TION AND
A FAKE
BRUISE,